

- 4 -

Parce *et al.*
Appl. No. 09/721,508**Remarks**

The foregoing Amendments are being made in response to a telephone conversation between Examiner Tran and the Applicants' representative on December 17, 2002. During the aforementioned telephone conversation, the Examiner asked that the foregoing Amendments be submitted in writing for proper inclusion in the record.

Additionally, please make the following correction to the remarks regarding the objection to the drawings made in the reply submitted September 30, 2002, on page 2. The remarks state that "Reference number 116, which corresponds to a detection window or zone, is discussed (for example) on page 35, line 13 of the application." The page numbers are incorrect. Accordingly, please change the foregoing remarks to read ". . . on page 17, line 5 of the application."

Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Supplemental Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Linda E. Alcorn

Linda E. Alcorn
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 39,588

Date: December 18, 2002

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

==ODMA\MHODMASKGF_DC1:73691:1

SKGF Rev. 4/9/02

Version with markings to show changes made

Marked-up version of the paragraph beginning on page 28, line 28:

In operation, test compounds in discrete subject material regions, are serially introduced into the device, separated as described above, and flowed along the transverse sample injection channel 304 until the separate subject material regions [test compounds] are adjacent the intersection of the sample channel 304 with the parallel reaction channels 310-324. As shown in FIGS. 4A-4F, the test compounds are optionally [may be] provided immobilized on individual beads. In those cases where the test compounds are immobilized on beads, the parallel channels are [may be] optionally fabricated to include bead resting wells 326-338 at the intersection of the reaction channels with the sample injection channel 304. Arrows 340 in Figure 4A indicate the net fluid flow during this type of sample/bead injection. As individual beads settle into a resting well, fluid flow through that particular channel will be generally restricted. The next bead in the series following the unrestricted fluid flow, then flows to the next available resting well to settle in place.

Marked-up version of the paragraph beginning on page 29, line 18:

Within the parallel channel, the test compound will be contacted with the biochemical system for which an effector compound is being sought. As shown, the first component of the biochemical system is placed into the reaction channels using a similar technique to that described for the test compounds. In particular, the [particular] biochemical system is typically introduced via one or more transverse seeding channels 306. Arrows 342 in Figure 4A illustrate the direction of fluid flow within the seeding channel 306. The biochemical system is optionally [may be] solution based, e.g., a continuously flowing enzyme/substrate or receptor-ligand mixture, like that described

- 6 -

Parce *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/721,508

above, or as shown in FIGS. [Figures] 4A-4F, may be a whole cell or bead based system, e.g., beads which have enzyme/substrate systems immobilized thereon.